at a cost of Rs. 36.21 lakhs was sanctioned in December, 1987 and the same is in advanced stage. As per the feasibility report, the project is estimated to cost about Rs. 122 crores.

It is too early to indicate when the work will be completed.

Harassment of Officials in Foreign Division of IB

1948. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Govrnment are aware that the officials in the Foreign Division of IB under his Ministry are being harassed and forced to work in in-human conditions by the Assistant Directors since long; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to check this harassment of the officials?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) Government have no such information.

(b) Does not arise.

Introduction of secured Passport Booklet with comprehensive security features

1949. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a more secured passport booklet with comprehensive security features in the country;

(b) if so, when such passport booklet would be introduced;

(c) whether all the passport offices in the country will issue such passports; and

(d) if so, what are the details of the new passport booklet?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As soon as possible during this year.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details are being finalised.

Poor D.T.C. Services in the Capital

1950. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPART be pleased to state :

(a) whether the D.T.C. bus service in the capital has badly deteriorated since the last three-four months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to take any concrete steps to remove DTC bus services in the capital;

(d) whether it is also a fact that D.T.C. is incurring heavy losses every year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps Government propose to take to make D.T.C. a profitable corporation ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) The details given below show that during December, 1988 to February, 1989 the facilities offered by D.T.C. has shown improvement over the level of services in the corresponding period of 1988-89.

Particulars	Previous period (December 1988 to February 1989)	Current period (December 1989 to February 1990)	%age change
1. Buses on road	3817	3926	+2.85
2. Trips operated daily	40090	41959	+4.66
3. Kms. operated daily (in lakhs)	8.79	9.26	+5.35
4. Passenger carried daily (in lakhs)	46.98	49.80	+6.00
5. Daily earning (Rs. in lakhs)	32.65	35.85	+9.80

For the year 1988-89, D.T.C. has been selected for best performance award in Road Transport by the National Productivity Council.

(c) The drive for improvement in D.T.C. bus service is a Continuing process and include :—

(i) Refresher courses for the crew to make them alert to their duties and responsibilities.

(ii) A Central Complaint Cell which functions round the clock for prompt disposal of complaints.

(iii) Mobile checking squads which carry out checking of the crew on-line so that they discharge their duties properly.

(iv) Time Table boards at important terminals for the convenience of the commuters.

(v) Measures of route-rationalisation, inventory control, economy in expenditure by preventive maintenance system.

(vi) Replacement of old buses by new buses.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The losses suffered by D.T.C. during the last three years are given below :—

(Rs. in crores)

Working loss	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
(i) Working loss	38.63	45.96	52.20
(ii) Depreciation	11.69	11.96	13.80
(iii) Interest	11.94	20.96	32.99
(iv) Net loss	62.26	78.88	98.99

D.T.C. has been incurring losses mainly due to its fare structure and rising cost of labour and other inputs besides concessionality in passes to various groups of passengers such as, students, residents of resettlement colonies etc. For improving the financial performance of D.T.C, steps taken by D.T.C. includes route-rationalisation, economy, in expenditure better inventory control, prevention of leakage of revenue etc.

Nepal's Pact with India for Citizenship Rights and Working Conditions of 'Madeshias'

1951. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Nepal have express its willingness to have pacts with India in respect of citizenship rights and working conditions of "Madeshias" residing in Terai area ;

(b) whether any discussion between both the countries on this issue was held during the month of February, 1990 ; and

(c) if so, the outcome of the talks held and further steps Government propose to take to normalise relations with Nepal?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b) No Sir. This is not possible as Madeshias are Nepalese nationals.

(c) The Indo-Nepal official level talks in New Delhi in February, 1990 covered as wide range of issues—trade transit, security perceptions, treatment of each other's nationals cooperation in industry & water resources development etc. An effort was made to achieve progress towards a comprehensive solution of outstanding issues between India and Nepal. The next round of official talks expected to be held soon will be for taking this process further.

Expenditure on Repair of Collapsed Bridge on Mandovi River

1952. SHRI JOHN. F. FERNANDES : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) what is the amount of expenditure Government have incurred since the collapse of bridge on river Mandovi in Goa to keep the traffic moving across this river ; and

(b) by when the new and old bridge would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN) : (a) An amount of Rs. 524.51 lakhs has so far been sanctioned for moving the traffic across river Mandovi in Goa on improvement of Ramps and Jetties and maintenance of Ferries since collapse of the bridge in July, 1986.

(b) The old and new bridges on river Mandovi are targetted to be completed by December, 1990.

Sanctioning of Separate 'Telecom Circle' for Goa

1953. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal has been pending before the Union Cabinet to sanction to Goa separate 'Telecom Circle' by delinking it from the present Bombay Telecom Circle ; and

(b) if so, by when this Telecom Circle is likely to be established?